Renaissance Readings. Read the packet and answer the following questions. Be prepared to discuss them in class.

Bruni

1. Who is Manual Chrysloras and why is Bruni so interested in studying from him?
2. Why is History such a valuable subject for Bruni?
3. What do we gain from poetry?
4. Do you think we at DHS teach the two sides of learning? If possible, give an example.

Mirandola

1. What do you think Mirandola means by deeming man “a creature of indeterminate nature”?
2. What do people gain from God?

Machiavelli

1. Which of the character traits that Machiavelli set forth on the 2nd page of the reading do you think is most important for a *Prince* (leader) to possess and which least? Explain your answer.
2. What does he think of the average person?
3. What is the role of God and religion in Machiavelli’s writing?
4. Based on Machiavelli’s standards who do you think was our greatest US President? Explain.

Castiglione

1. How does Castiglione’s ideal gentleman reflect the spirit of the Renaissance?
2. Compare and contrast Castiglione’s ideal courtier with what would be regarded as an ideal type during the Middle Ages.
3. Taking the four readings as a whole, why are they all considered examples of humanism?
4. To what extent do the four readings reflect our current values?
5. Which of the writers did you like best and why?